2014

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

of

PIMS 5279

Solar Water Heating Market Transformation and Strengthening Initiative

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A. Basic Project and Finance Data

Executing Agency:	United Nations Development Programme
GEF Focal Area:	Climate Change - Mitigation
Country(ies)	(ALB) Albania(ALB) Albania(NHE) New Hebrides(NYC) New York
Project Start Date:	11-Aug-2009
Planned Project Closing Date:	30-Jun-2015
Revised Planned Closing Date:	30-Jun-2015
Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board meetings during reporting period:	June 2014
Overall Risk rating	Low
Overall DO rating	Highly Satisfactory
Overall IP rating	Highly Satisfactory
GEF grant amount disbursed so far	$ 0.00

B. Project Summary

C. Project Evaluation

D. Adjustments

Project Planning				
Key project milestone	**Status**	**Original Planned Date (Month/Year)**	**Actual or Expected Date (Month/Year)**	**Comments, including reasons for delays and their implications**
Inception Workshop		**-**	**-**	
Mid-term Review		-	-	
Terminal Evaluation		-	-	

Critical Risk Management	
Critical Risks Type(s)	2014

General comments:

E. Progress toward Development Objective

Description	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2009	Level at 30 June 2010	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014
Acceleration of the global commercialization and market development of SWH in residential, private service sector, and public buildings and, when applicable, industrial applications.	The amount of installed SWH systems in participating countries (m2). The annual market growth rate in the participating countries in terms of newly installed m2 (%). Level of customer satisfaction with the SWH systems installed.	As per the initial country-specific market assessments and baseline analyses.	An additional 1 million m2 of installed SWH capacity compared to the expected baseline development. Sustainable market growth of at least 20% in average in the participating countries by the end of the project.						
		33,000 m2 of installed collector area in 2005 with 7,000 m2 of new SWH capacity installed in 2005 with the expected 5% annual growth. Mixed customer satisfaction.	At least 75,000 m2 of new installed collector area during the project, and an annual sale of 20,000 m2 reached with expected continuing growth to reach the set target of 520,000 m2 of installed SWH capacity by 2020. Positive experience for over 80% of the clients who have purchased a SWH system on the basis of problem-free good quality products and after-sale services.					At mid-term, the installation of nearly 40,000 m2 of new SWH capacity has been installed, which accounts for more than 50% of the expected final impact (direct post-project and indirect) within the project timeframe; At the end of June, 2013 the cumulative SWH systems area is 122,165 m2, with 20,845 m2 new installed area within the reporting period;The law on Renewable Energy Sources is approved by the Albanian parliament on 02 May,	At the end of June, 2014 the cumulative SWH systems area is 144,565 m2, with 22,400 m2 new installed area within the reporting period; To support the implementation of the Solar Chapter under the Law on Renewable Energy Sources, endorsed on 02 May, 2013, the following sub-legal acts are prepared/discused: (i) Governmental Decree on approval of rules for mandatory installation of solar water heating systems in buildings, and ii) Governmental Decree on exemption from value added tax and custom duties of solar water heating systems; The grounds are prepared for the establishment of the RES/EE Fund to further secure the sustainability of the actions undertaken to transform the SWH market in the country; The Tirana Municipality and a number of other local governments are supported with

								2013 with a whole chapter promoting solar thermal systems, while secondary regulations are already drafted in this regard;More than 350 participants are trained over the last 3 years and the GEF project provided TA to commercial energy end-users and finally the project carried out the annual survey to follow up on the market transformation and the performance of installed equipment.	technical assistance and demonstration projects to justify the solar obligation's ordinances to request SWH systems in each and every new public building and the ones going through a major renovation; A whole monitoring system is installed and collected are under processing from the pilot projects, big SWH systems installed and families spread as per the climatic zones in urban/rural areas; More than 560 participants (Arch., Eng., Instructors, etc.) are trained over the last four years, with 210 only during the reporting period, out of which 72 female participants, focused mainly on the quality of products and their design and integration into new and existing buildings including monitoring and maintenance. Over 90% of the trained professionals responded very satisfactorily to the usefulness of training materials in terms of fulfilling their interests and requirements for new information. A survey made in a residential building resulted that 100% of inhabitants had enough information about SWH systems and did not see this as a barrier for investing. All conducted hotels, having not yet a SWH system in their premises, resulted to have good knowledge about the SWH systems and their installation requirements, while pointing out the initial investment as the main barrier for not having yet done a decision pro SWH systems. On the other hand, a voluntary certification and labelling scheme is adopted for the SWH equipment and installation services by the majority of the SWH equipment providers having the Solar Keymark

									certification with a market share of over 60%. This is expected to be reinforced upon endorsement of the secondary legislation of the RES law, according to which draft "In order to meet the requirements of the solar obligation in buildings, all imported SWH collectors should have the EU certification Solar Keymark, while starting from 1 June, 2017, a full Solar Keymark Certification is required for domestically produced and assembled SWH collectors".
	Chile	Current baseline expansion of installed capacity shows an annual growth, relative to approximately 6,000 m2 of installed capacity in 2006. At this growth, total installed capacity will reach 11,000 m2 by 2011.	Accelerate and ensure sustainable growth rate of 45%-50% for the SWH market in Chile to reach a target of 35,700 m2. The growth rate in the residential sector will be proportionately faster. Residential systems will account for 80% of the total expansion in capacity.						
	India	Estimated 2 m2 in India per 1000 inhabitants by the end of the project following the current baseline development. Growth of annual sales rate at 6 % in India, being lower than previous years as a result of market mistrust. Mixed customer satisfaction.	2 million m2 market acceleration contributing to (10 million m2 per 1 billion inhabitants). A steady, average growth rate of >30 % in India reached by the end of the project and continuing growth toward the expected saturation point of 140 m2 per 1,000 inhabitants towards 2025.						

			Over 90% customer satisfaction on new installations on the basis of problem free good quality products and installation services.						
	Lebanon	Estimated 26 m2 in Lebanon per 1000 inhabitants in year 2005 i,e 106,817 m2 total installed collectors with 16,000 m2 of new SWH capacity installed by year 2005. Average Annual Growth: 10-15 % in Lebanon as evidenced over the past 5 years with significant risks of not being able to sustain the continuing, steady growth . Mixed customer satisfaction.	At least 190,000 m2 of new installed collector area during the project, and an annual sale of 50,000 m2 reached with expected continuing growth to reach the set target of 1,050,000 m2 of installed SWH capacity by 2020. 55-75 m2 per 1,000 inhabitants with a steady, average growth rate of 15-20% reached by the end of the project and continuation until the expected saturation point of 55-75 m2 per 1,000 inhabitants and 200-225 m2 per 1000 inhabitants by year 2020. Positive experience by over 80% of the clients who have purchased a SWH system on the basis of problem-free good quality products and after-sale services.						
	Mexico	Current baseline expansion of installed	Accelerate and ensure sustainable growth rate						

		capacity shows 14% annual growth, relative to approximately 743,000 m2 of installed capacity in 2005. At this rate, total installed capacity will reach 1,500,000 m2 by 2011.	of 25-30% (in total installed capacity) for the SWH market in Mexico to reach a target of 2,500,000 m2. The growth rate in the residential sector will be proportionately faster. Residential systems made to account for 14% of the total installed capacity.						
	Number of new countries proposing similar activities for GEF funding as a stand-alone SWH project which is a part of the broader global networking of the overall initiative.	UNEP	Interest in and start-up of replication of similar activities in other countries.						
Effective initiation and coordination of the country-specific support needs and improved access of national experts to state-of-the-art information, technical backstopping, training, and international experiences and lessons learnt.	The number of countries with SWH market transformation and strengthening activities initiated.	0 (under this initiative or linked to it).	At least 16 (UNEP).						
	Availability of timely and cost-effective technical backstopping responding to the needs (to be evaluated on the basis of surveys conducted with the participating countries).	UNEP	UNEP						

	Albania								
	Chile								
	India								
	Lebanon								
	Mexico								
The specific SWH market transformation targets of the first 6 participating countries reached by the end of the project, conducive to the overall global market transformation goals of the project.	The success in meeting the country-specific targets in the initial 6 countries (as per the sub-components listed below, corresponding to the specific country project outcomes).	The basic conditions for accelerated and sustainable SWH market development in most GEF program countries still missing. As per the initial country specific market assessments and baseline analysis.	A supportive legal and regulatory framework in 6 participating countries adopted (including an applicable quality assurance, certification, and labeling scheme). The level of awareness of the targeted end users. The capacity of the key local stakeholders built as per the targets of individual country components. Access to suitable financing to cover the higher up-front costs of SWH systems. The SWH penetration rate and the annual growth rate ias per the stated country-specific targets.						
An enabling institutional, legal and regulatory framework to promote a sustainable SWH market.	The adoption and effective enforcement of SWH-related laws and regulations (incl.	N/A	N/A						

	possible financial and fiscal incentives) to promote sustainable SWH market development. The level of implementation (e.g. an amount of systems, whose installation has been facilitated by the new regulation, share of targeted buildings respecting a new building code, etc.) - to be based on periodical surveys still to be introduced by each national project and as such not likely to be available for the first PIR).								
		No specific building regulations, fiscal, or public financial incentives in place to promote sustainable SWH market . No specific regulations for SWH standards, certification or quality control mechanisms in place.	The recommended amendments to promote sustainable SWH market:• setting of specific targets for heat produced by RES by 2020 • required amendments to the building code/law to encourage the installation of SWH into new/under renovation buildings • sustainable financial incentive mechanisms by using the resources of the EE Fund/other public • required fiscal incentives, such as exempting the imported SWH					Law No. 138/2013 on Renewable Energy Sources is adopted on 2 May 2013, promoting Solar Energy by establishing: (i) Minimum objectives on using solar energy; (ii) Mandatory installation of SWH systems; (iii) Certification and labeling of SWH systems; and (iv) Tax exemption from the custom duties and VAT for SWH systems. The law, looking that public buildings indicate a primary role, starting the	The implementation of the Law No.138/2013 on Renewable Energy Sources is postponed (by the new Government after the General Elections of June, 2013) with another 6 – 12 months, mainly due to the impact of new hydro producers on electricity end-users price, which ought to be done in coordination with the market design to be included in the Electricity Law, currently under revision. However, two governmental decrees are prepared/discussed to implement the Solar Chapter: i) Draft Decree on approval of rules for mandatory installation of solar water heating systems in buildings, and ii) Draft Decree on exemption from value added tax and custom duties of solar water heating systems; Technical and Legal assistance is given to several

			equipment and materials from import duties and related taxes • setting up a SWH quality control system corresponding (to the extent feasible) to the relevant EU regulations.					installation of solar panels from 2013, charges the Council of Ministers within 6-12 months to issue the following Governmental Decrees to: 1) adopt specific criteria for calculation of solar energy used for hot water either separately or as part of energy building code; 2) determine the economy sectors and categories of buildings, the minimum surface area or the capacity of SWH systems to be installed, the technical requirements and the specific procedures and criteria to be followed for better enforcement of these obligations and their monitoring by the responsible institutions; 3) approve certifying schemes or equivalent qualifying schemes for installers of solar panel systems, developed by the National Agency of Natural Resources. Such certificates shall also be required from installers of SWH systems installed to satisfy the indicators in force and from those	municipalities for drafting and implementation of the standards related to renewable energy sources and energy efficiency in public buildings, including also the solar thermal obligation in all new buildings and those going under major renovation; The Slovenian Eco-Fund is presented both, in Tirana and a study tour with Albanian decision makers is organized in Slovenia to profit from their positive experience and lessons learnt, in an attempt to establish the Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Fund in Albania as the sustainable financial incentive mechanism for SWH systems; The preparation of the National Action Plan on Renewable Energy is supported, discussed and submitted to the Energy Community Treaty of the EU, commented very positively and actually at the final stage of endorsement by the new Government: under the committed RES target of 38% by 2020, the target for thermal energy from solar is 1.23 %.

								that benefit from the public incentive schemes; and 4) approve the rules and procedures on the reimbursement of custom duties paid for imported raw materials for the production or installation of SWH systems. The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy got assisted for finalization of National Renewable Energy Action Plan, while the new feed-in tariffs implied by the RES Law is a key mechanism in helping Albania with its commitment to meeting a 38% percent RES target (excluding large hydro) by 2020 which is consistent with Albania's commitments as a member of the Energy Community Treaty of the EU.	
Enhanced awareness and capacity of the targeted end users and building sector professionals to consider and integrate SWH systems into different types of buildings (or into other promising new market segments/applications).	List and/or a brief description of the results of awareness raising, marketing, and training activities implemented (qualitative) and demand for additional information, as measured by market surveys (quantitative).	N/A	N/A						

	The share of new and renovated buildings in different market segments adopting SWH into their design (quantitative, if available).								
		According to an initial market survey, more than 50% responded not having made a positive decision yet, because of the lack of information and > 90% said they would like to have more information for final judgement.	Over 80% of the end users and designers participating in the market survey indicate that they have had enough information about SWH systems to make their decision. For all new and renovated buildings suitable for the integration of SWH systems, SWH has been considered as an option and over 20% from each group of these buildings is integrating SWH into their final design.					One-year monitoring is accomplished with relevant data on consumption of hot water/electricity used in 20 families according to three climatic zones to better determine the financial parameters of SWH collectors used in the country. 3 complete sets of monitoring equipment are installed (by Hotel Theranda, Daycare centre No. 17 and Orphans House in Tirana). Following the cooperation with Italian association CeLIM, 3 other didactic sets are provided in Vocational Training Centers which develop specific courses for solar energy (in Shkodra, Vlora and Korca) and for high school \\\\\\\"Karl Gega\\\\\\\" in Tirana. Harry Fultz Institute has started a specific course for solar	Two-years monitoring are accomplished with relevant data on consumption of hot water/electricity used in 20 families according to three climatic zones to better determine the financial parameters of SWH systems used in the country, while one – year monitoring is accomplished by three big SWH systems in social centers/hotels and 7 pilot projects in kindergartens, schools and dormitories. In the framework of the collaboration with the Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth/State Social Service and several Local Governments, design projects are prepared with technical specifications for the installation of Solar Thermal Systems by the Development Centre in Berat, Elderly House in Fier, Domestic Development Centre and the House of Colors in Tirana, Elderly House and Development House in Shkodra; Sport Centers in Orikum and Himara, Day-Care Centre/Kindergarten and the Dormitory of the Economic High School in Saranda; the Dormitory of the High School and two Day-Care Centers in Elbasan, as well as for the Day-Care Centre and Kindergarten in Gramsh; Following the collaboration with the Municipality of Lezha, the solar thermal systems are installed, co-financed also from the Municipality of Lezha, by the dormitory of the

								installers in September, 2012. Following the installation of three SWH systems by tourist area of Thethi and training seminar for media representatives, a promotional event is organized in Thethi for public awareness on solar energy used in relatively isolated areas and touristic places (20-21 July 2012) with 30 participants from line ministries, UN bodies, NGOs and a great number of written and visual medias. A SWH system is installed by "Orphans House" in Tirana in cooperation with the State Social Service, the launching event of which (12 March 2013) was well attended by 35 representatives from line ministries, State Social Service, solar related businesses, media, etc. In frame of collaboration with Ministry of Labour, Social Issues and Equal Opportunities different social institutions/public buildings are evaluated for their	professional school "Kolin Gjoka" and by the Day-Care Centre "Beselidhja" to cover the demand for hot water of the above institutions; It is installed and put into function also the SWH system by the "Domestic Development Centre" in Tirana; Besides the web paged based, it is enabled the development of the applications for "Smart Phones" of the SWH Tool for the Residential and Service sectors https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/solar-app/id792965104?ls=1&mt=8; A great number of trainings and promotion materials are realized like trainings manuals and presentations, leaflets, drawings, information tables, calendars, film materials, etc. More than 560 participants (Arch., Eng., Instructors, etc.) are trained over the last four years, with 210 only during the reporting period, out of which 72 female participants, focused mainly on the quality of products and their design and integration into new and existing buildings including monitoring and maintenance. Over 90% of the trained professionals responded very satisfactorily to the usefulness of training materials in terms of fulfilling their interests and requirements for new information. A survey made in a residential building resulted that 100% of inhabitants had enough information about SWH systems and did not see this as a barrier for investing. All conducted hotels, having not yet a SWH system in their premises, resulted to have good knowledge about the SWH systems and their installation requirements, while pointing out the initial investment as the main barrier for not having yet done a decision pro

								feasibility/technical specifications of SWH systems' installations: the Project is looking forward to enter into a MoU with the Ministry of Labour for joint implementations of pilot projects. "Business to Business" meetings on "innovative technologies" are organized jointly with "Unioncamere Puglia" in Tirana (12–14 November 2012) with participation of 16 Italian companies and 30 domestic ones, involving ones operating with solar energy.	SWH systems.
Increased demand for SWH systems based on availability of attractive end user financing mechanisms and/or other delivery models.	Description of the available financing mechanisms to support SWH investments (qualitative) and amount of financing leveraged by the mechanisms for SWH investments (quantitative) and amount of financing leveraged by the mechanisms for SWH investments (quantitative).	N/A	N/A						
		No specific longer-term financing and new delivery mechanisms	The agreed financial support mechanisms (such as specific					A one-year MoU with Tirana Municipality is signed (10 March	In the absence of the funds dedicated for the financing mechanism through a MoU beetwen Italian Ministry for the

		offered and marketed for the SWH purchase.	purpose bank loans, vendor financing, SESCOs, etc.) and new delivery models in operation with a cumulative target of USD 15 million leveraged by them for SWH financing by the end of the project.					2013) to cooperate in the following areas: i) Technical and legal assistance for drafting and implementation of "Standards of the MoT for Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency on public buildings including the Mandatory installation of SWH systems by all new buildings and those going through a major renovation ii) Piloting solar thermal installations by Day-care centers No. 30, No. 50, and High schools "Eqerem Çabej", "Ahmet Gashi" in Tirana iii) Training of the municipal staff to support project design and monitoring of the SWH systems installed iv) Support with SWH demonstration systems of the Center "Promotion, Demonstration, and Education on RES" v) Feasibility study and a suitable financial mechanism for installation of SWH systems and energy efficiency measures in a concrete existing multi-apartment in Tirana, in partnership with inhabitants, MoT	Environment, Land and Sea and UNEP to be implemented in line with the Outcome 2.3 of the Project, and in line with the MTE reccommendations, a Financial Support Delivery mechanism is designed/implemented (an Investment Cost-sharing Small Grants scheme supported by national co-financing) to provide the needed financing support for SWH systems targeting government/public facilities. As a result, and following the implementation of the extended Memorandum of Understanding with the MoT-Municipality of Tirana (10 March, 2013 – 10 September, 2014) the following are realized: (i) The SWH systems jointly co-financed and installed together with monitoring equipment in Day-Care centers No. 17, 30, 50, and High Schools "Eqerem Cabej", and "Ahmet Gashi" in Tirana: surveillance of and processing of data are following; (ii) Technical and Legal assistance for drafting and implementation of the standards related to renewable energy sources and energy efficiency in public buildings for the Municipality of Tirana, including also the solar thermal obligation in all new buildings and those going under major reconstruction (under the jurisdiction of MoT); (iii) Training of the municipal staff to support project design and monitoring of the SWH systems installed; and (iv) Preparation/Presentation/Discussion of the Feasibility study and proposal of a suitable financial mechanism for the installation of the SWH systems and implementation of Energy Efficiency measures (thermo insulation and

								and/or interested Banks; and vi) Joint public awareness raising campaigns. Following the MoU, international/national experts started design and determination of the technical specifications for the pilot projects, and technical/legal assistance to be given to MoT. Following the recommendations of the MTE report for pilot projects and the collaboration with the National Agency for Natural Resources (NANR), a solar thermal system is installed and put into function for the main building of NANR, which has demonstrative purpose as well, since NANR is the state institution in charge with RES policy; Following the cooperation with the State Social Service, the SWH system for the Elderly House in Tirana and for the Clinics in Petrela and Preza are procured/installed. The cooperation with Lezha Municipality is finalized, followed by	double glass windows), in partnership with inhabitants, MoT and/or interested Banks for a concrete existing multi-apartment in Tirana, selected by the MoT; Again in line with the MTE recommendations and as per the Management Response in place since 2012 “Technical assistance to be given to the MEI to draft the regulation related to the ‘’EE/RE Investment Fund’’ required to advance the enforcement of the RE Regulation and boost investments in RE/EE”, the grounds are prepared for the establishment of the RES/EE Fund to further secure the sustainability of the actions undertaken to transform the SWH market in the country.

								the technical specifications for the joint implementation of pilot projects by the dormitory of the professional school “Kolin Gjoka” and by the Day-Care Centre “Beselidhja” to cover their demand for hot water.	
	Chile	The cost of SWH is currently prohibitively high for the majority of the residential sector and the financial sector (banks, mortgage institutions) lacks adequate support mechanisms.	Generation of demand for SWH through applicable consumer financing and, as applicable, financial support schemes with the objective of adding an increment of approximately 29,000 m2 of additional SWH capacity, and meeting set target of 35,700m2 of total installed SWH capacity. This equates to a target of leveraging USD 15-20 million (including both bank lending and cash contributions) to attain the set target.						
	India	No specific longer term financing and new delivery mechanisms offered and marketed for the SWH purchase.	The agreed financial support mechanisms and new delivery models in operation to meet the announced MNRE target to reach 10 m2 of installed SWH capacity by 2020.						

	Lebanon	No specific longer-term financing and new delivery mechanisms offered and marketed for SWH purchases.	The agreed financial support mechanisms and new delivery models in operation with a cumulative target of USD 20 million (about 40-50% of the total investment needs) leveraged by them for SWH financing.						
	Mexico	Generally, the cost of SWH systems is too high for majority of residential sector and the financial sector (banks, mortgage institutions) lacks adequate support mechanisms.	Generation of demand for SWH through applicable consumer financing and, as applicable, financial support schemes with the objective of adding an increment of approximately 900,000 m2 of additional SWH capacity by 2011, and meeting set target of 2.5 million m2 of total installed SWH capacity by that year. This equates to an objective of leveraging at least USD 100 million (10% of total investment needs) to attain the set target.						
A certification and quality control scheme applicable for the respective national conditions adopted and enhanced capacity of the supply chain to offer good quality products and services promoting a sustainable SWH market.	Description of the quality assurance system in use (qualitative) and estimated market share of sold products adhering to the proposed quality control schemes (quantitative). Level of customer	N/A	N/A						

	satisfaction on the SWH systems installed (to be based on periodical surveys still to be introduced by each CP and as such not likely to be available for the first PIR).								
		Lack of adequate incentives for and, in some cases, lack of capacity of the supply side to offer equipment and associated services at the required level to sustain the market growth.	Adoption of a voluntary quality control, certification, and labelling scheme for the SWH equipment and installation services by the majority of the SWH equipment and service providers with a market share of over 80% at the end of the project. Over 90% of customer satisfaction on the certified equipment and services provided.					Following the outcomes of the Int./national experts on testing and certifications, a tailored training on testing centre placed by "Harry Fultz" Institute in Tirana is organized (20 October 2012), with participation of 23 instructors, manufacturers, importers, other interested engineers and students. Upon provision of the certification and labeling scheme for SWH collectors, a round table is organized with 13 representatives from Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy (METE), Ministry of Public Works and Transport, General Directorate of Accreditation, General Directorate of Standardization, and manufacturers:	The testing of solar collectors by the Solar Testing Centre is continued (installed by"Harry Fultz" Institute in Tirana); Following the recommendations of the international expertise, the ToRs related to the procurement of the SWH systems are upgraded for fulfilling the requests of the European Certification "Solar Keymark"; On the other hand, a voluntary certification and labelling scheme is adopted for the SWH equipment and installation services by the majority of the SWH equipment providers having the Solar Keymark certification with a market share of over 60%. This is expected to be reinforced upon endorsement of the secondary legislation of the RES law, according to which draft "In order to meet the requirements of the solar obligation in buildings, all imported SWH collectors should have the EU certification Solar Keymark, while starting from 1 June, 2017, a full Solar Keymark Certification is required for domestically produced and assembled SWH collectors"; Discussions are still going with the new government to consider the temporary Albanian scheme of testing and certification of SWH products and the quality management, allowing for the domestic industry to upgrade to the

								certification scheme proposed by the Project is widely discussed and approved by participants on 24 October 2012. Following METE's suggestion to collaborate with other projects to support Albanian SWH manufacturers regarding testing and certification of their products and quality management according to European certification "Solar Keymark", meetings are organized with BAS (Business Advisory Services) Project of EBRD and AIDA (Albanian Investment Development Agency).Following, a round table is organized (30 April 2013) jointly with AIDA with participation of 8 Albanian SWH manufacturers on the possibilities of co-financing their efforts for testing/certification of solar panels, qualified as innovative technology. \\\\\\\"Regional workshop and B2B meetings for the	requirements of the European certification "Solar Keymark" till 2017; the project has been closely assisting at least one of the domestic producers who seems very close to the final testing of one model of SWH collectors to possibly get the "Solar Keymark" certification in one of the EU testing/certification center; On the job trainings are delivered to departments from local governments in charge with monitoring and maintenance of SWH systems upon the hand-over to them of several pilot projects.

								Transformation and Strengthening of the SWH Market in the Mediterranean region\\\\\\\" is successfully organized in Tirana (20-21 March 2013) in the frame of the GEF/UNDP/UNEP/ICA Global Initiative for the SWH Market Transformation with participation of 50 representatives from Albania and the Mediterranean region, from Albanian line ministries, UNDP Albania, Bratislava and New York, UNEP Paris, etc. The workshop was positively evaluated and created a network of collaboration among the policy-makers, experts and local businesses with their homologues in the Mediterranean region, operating in the area of SWH.	
	Chile	Lack of adequate incentives for and lack of capacity of the supply side to offer equipment and services at the required level to sustain market growth.	Implementation of capacity building initiatives to raise product quality and services provided by local SWH manufacturers. Adoption of a voluntary quality control and certification scheme for						

			SWH equipment and installation services adhered to by the majority (over 80%) of SWH equipment and service providers in Chile.						
	India	Generally, the supply side capacity is not up to the required level of professionalism.	Enhanced capacity of the supply chain to respond to the growing demand with good quality services sustaining the market growth.						
	Lebanon	Lack of adequate incentives for and, in some cases, lack of capacity of the supply side to offer equipment and associated services at the required level to sustain the market growth.	Adoption of a voluntary quality control, certification, and labelling schemes for the SWH equipment and installation services by the majority of the SWH equipment and service providers with a market share of over 80%. Over 90% of customer satisfaction on the certified equipment and services provided.						
	Mexico	Lack of adequate incentives for and some lack of capacity of the supply side to offer equipment and services at required level to sustain market growth.	Adoption of a voluntary quality control and certification scheme for SWH equipment and installation services adhered to by the majority (over 80%) of SWH equipment and service providers in Mexico.						

The provided support institutionalized and the results, experiences, and lesson learnt documented and disseminated (including monitoring, learning, evaluation, and other feedback for adaptive management).	Description of the available sustainable institutional support for SWH development (e.g. specific government entities, information points, SWH industry associations, etc.) that will provide continuing support for SWH market development beyond the end of the project and access to project-related information by national and international experts.	N/A	N/A						
		No sustainability of the required market support. No results and experiences documented and disseminated.	Local institution(s) continuing to promote the SWH market after the end of the project. The reports and other public material from the project can be easily found and accessed.					The forecasts for the penetration of solar panels for hot water are realized also for the industry sector following the updating of the relevant analysis for the residential and service sectors. The Albanian Public Television (TVSH) is preparing a short movie on the Project's achievements and the best experience of pilot solar thermal systems performed in the public/private sectors (to be launched via the programmes of TVSH on September, 2013). The mid-term evaluation is	The market monitoring for the reporting period is realized and the forecasts for the penetration of solar panels for hot water are updated for the residential, service and industry sectors; In collaboration with MEI and other in line institutions it has been worked for the support of a new initiative, focusing on the Energy Efficiency norms in the buildings related to solar energy and in line with the best European practices/ European Directives; The Albanian Public Television (TVSH) is contracted for the preparation/presentation on a special emission, (date 10 May, 2014) a complete movie on the achievements of the Project and the best experience of pilot solar thermal systems performed in the public/private sectors; Representatives of the project have actively participated in activities related specially to solar energy, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change in general; A considerable number of

								accomplished according to the procedures of GEF: The overall rating is "satisfactory", with many "highly satisfactory" ones for different Project's components, coming up with three main recommendations for its further implementation until the end of the Project, opening in the same time the possibility for its extension for another year, in support of drafting the secondary legislation for the implementation of the RES Law; piloting projects in the public buildings based on the local contribution of the Albanian Government, and feasibility studies/a financing scheme for private hotelier industry in the country; Following, the Response Management Strategy is prepared/under implementation. The financial audit is carried out for 2012, with excellent results. Representatives of the project have actively participated in	technical reports are prepared and published in the webpage of the UNDP Climate Change Programme (www.ccalb.org) under the SWH Project and on the UNDP webpage (www.undp.al.org); Different reports/analysis are prepared as per requests of UNDP, MEI, ME and other institutions in the country.

								activities related specially to solar energy, RES, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change in general. Different reports are prepared as per requests of UNDP, METE, MMPAU and other institutions in the country: The activities and the reports are published in the webpage of the UNDP Climate Change Programme (www.ccalb.org) under the SWH Project.	
	Chile	No sustainability of the required market support. No results and experiences documented and disseminated.	Local institutions continuing to promote the SWH market beyond the duration of the project.						
	India	No results and experiences documented and disseminated.	The reports and other public material from the project can be easily found and accessed.						
	Lebanon	No sustainability of the required market support. No results and experiences documented and disseminated.	Local institution(s) continuing to promote the SWH market after the end of the project. The reports and other public material from the project can be easily found and accessed.						
	Mexico	No sustainability of the	Local institutions						

		required market support. No results and experiences documented and disseminated.	continuing to promote the SWH market beyond the duration of the project.						

F. Progress in Implementation

Global Outcome 1	Effective initiation and coordination of the country-specific support needs and improved access of national experts to state-of-the-art information, technical backstopping, training, and international experiences and lessons learnt.
Outputs Reported	
Global Outcome 2:	The specific SWH market transformation targets of the first 6 participating countries reached by the end of the project, conducive to the overall global market transformation goals of the project.
Outputs Reported	
Outcome 2.1.	An enabling institutional, legal and regulatory framework to promote a sustainable SWH market.

Outputs Reported 1. As a follow-up of the of the Law No. 138/2013 on Renewable Energy Sources, to enable the implementation of the chapter on solar energy the below sublegal acts are drafted/discussed/revised: i) Draft Decree on approval of rules for mandatory installation of solar water heating systems in buildings, and ii) Draft Decree on exemption from value added tax and custom duties of solar water heating systems;

2. Following the request of new government to through their Ministry of Energy and Industry for technical assistance for the review of the Law No. 138/2013 on Renewable Energy Sources, and the draft National Renewable Energy Action Plan, the international consultancy is hired and presented during the first fact-finding mission in June, 2014 with the specific concerns related mainly to the feed-in tariffs for the SHPPs. The recommendations will be provided within July, 2014, after which the secondary legislation to implement the solar chapter will get endorsed.

Outcome 2.2.	Enhanced awareness and capacity of the targeted end users and building sector professionals to consider and integrate SWH systems into different types of buildings (or into other promising new market segments/applications).

Outputs Reported 1. Two-year monitoring program is performed on consumption of hot water/electricity used in 20 families according to 3 climatic zones in Albania, while monitoring equipment are installed (by Hotel Theranda, Orphans House, Day-Care centers No. 17, 30, 50, and two High Schools in Tirana);

2.In frame of cooperation with Ministry of Social Welfare/State Social Service and Local Governments, design projects are prepared for SWH Systems by Development Centre in Berat, Elderly House in Fier, Domestic Development Centre and House of Colors in Tirana, Elderly House and Development House in Shkodra; Sport Centers in Orikum and Himara, Day-Care Centre/Kindergarten and Dormitory of Economic High School in Saranda; Dormitory of High School and two Day-Care Centers in Elbasan, and Day-Care Centre and Kindergarten in Gramsh. The systems for institutions in Elbasan and Gramsh are already under procurement phase;

3. Following cooperation with Lezha Municipality, SWH systems are co-financed and installed by dormitory of the professional school and by Day-Care Centre;

4. A SWH system is installed by the "Domestic Development Centre" in Tirana;

5.In cooperation with presence of OSCE in Tirana, two series of workshops are realized in October 2013 and May 2014 for SWH technologies in different municipalities and communes (Orikum, Himara, Lukova, Saranda and Ksamil);

6. Application for "Smart Phones" of SWH Tool for residential/service sectors is enabled under https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/solar-app/id792965104?ls=1&mt=8;

7. In collaboration with Polytechnic University (Architecture and Mechanical Engineering) training workshops are delivered for Architects, Energy Engineers, other professionals, students of Masters and of Energy Audit course, for technologies of solar thermal systems for hot water and heating, on 22 April and 26 May, 2014;

8. Different promotion materials are realized like leaflets, drawings, information tables, calendars, film materials, etc.

Outcome 2.3:	Increased demand for SWH systems based on availability of attractive end user financing mechanisms and/or other delivery models.

Outputs Reported 1. Following the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Municipality of Tirana (10 March, 2013 – 10 September, 2014) the following activities are realized:

2. Solar thermal systems are installed by the Day-care centers No. 30, and No. 50, and High schools "Eqerem Çabej", and "Ahmet Gashi", in Tirana, which systems are with monitoring equipment;

3. Technical and Legal assistance for drafting and implementation of the standards related to renewable energy sources and energy efficiency in public buildings for the Municipality of Tirana (MoT), including also the solar thermal obligation in all new buildings and those going under major reconstruction (under the jurisdiction of MoT): the prepared drafts are prepared, discussed through a round table and revised accordingly. The MoT is waiting for the monitoring results and cost-benefit analysis of the pilot installed end of December, as the justification background to continue with

the endorsement of the solar obligations;

4. Three rounds of on the job training of the municipal staff to support (i) project design and planning, (ii) the implementation of the designed solar obligation upon endorsement, and (iii) monitoring and maintenance of the SWH systems installed upon hand-over and commissioning;

5. Preparation/Presentation/Discussion of a Feasibility study/proposal of a suitable financial mechanism for the installation of the SWH systems and implementation of Energy Efficiency measures (thermo insulation and double glass windows), in partnership with inhabitants, MoT and/or interested Banks for a concrete existing multi-apartment in Tirana, randomly selected by the MoT: the MoT is trying to move forward to co-finance the implementation of this case, aiming at its replication in case of best results.

Outcome 2.4:	A certification and quality control scheme applicable for the respective national conditions adopted and enhanced capacity of the supply chain to offer good quality products and services promoting a sustainable SWH market.

Outputs Reported 1. The testing of solar collectors by the Solar Testing Centre has continued (installed by "Harry Fultz" Institute in Tirana) with new models provided by the domestic producers;

2. Following the recommendations of the international expertise, the ToRs related to the procurement of the SWH systems are upgraded for fulfilling the requests of the European Certification "Solar Keymark";

3. It has been worked for the possibility of creating a RES/EE Fund as a way to ensure the sustainability of the market for solar thermal systems for hot water, on the basis of positive experience in the region: besides several presentations/discussion in Tirana, a group of decision-makers from the Ministry of Energy and Industry, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of European Integration has benefited from the positive experience of the Slovenian Eco-Fund through a study tour on 16-20 June, 2014: the RES/EE Fund is expected to be established under the secondary legislation of the Renewable Energy Sources law/Energy Efficiency law.

Outcome 2.5:	The provided support institutionalized and the results, experiences, and lesson learnt documented and disseminated (including monitoring, learning, evaluation, and other feedback for adaptive management).

Outputs Reported • The forecasts for the penetration of solar panels for hot water are realized for the residential, service and industry sectors following the updating of the relevant analysis for the residential and service sectors;

- The PIR (Project Implementation Review) report is prepared for the period July 2013 – June 2014, upon the request of GEF donor;
- In collaboration with MEI and other in line institutions it has been worked for the support of a new initiative, focusing on the Energy Efficiency norms in the buildings related to solar energy and in line with the best European practices/ European Directives;
- The Albanian Public Television (TVSH) has prepared and presented through a dedicated special emission (date 10 May, 2014) a full documentary film on the achievements/challenges of the Project for market transformation of SWH systems in Albania and the best experience of pilot solar thermal systems installed in the public/private sectors;
- Representatives of the project have actively participated in activities related specially to solar energy, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change in general;
- Different technical reports and other reports/analysis as per requests of UNDP, MEI, ME and other institutions in the country are prepared and circulated: The activities and the reports are reflected/published in the webpage of the UNDP Climate Change Programme (www.ccalb.org) under the SWH Project and on the UNDP webpage (www.undp.al.org).

General comments:

G. Ratings and Comments on Project Progress

Progress toward Development Objectives	
Project Manager/Coordinator	Highly Satisfactory

Following AWPs for 2013-2014 project managed to achieve most of its outcomes at a highly satisfactory level. Gov.Decrees are prepared i) On approval of rules for mandatory installation of SWH systems in buildings ii) On exemption from VAT and custom duties of SWH systems. RES NAP supported by Project is endorsed by Energy Community Treaty setting RES target for Albania of 38%, with 12.1% for thermal energy by RES and 1.23 % by Solar. Project is asked by new

Gov to revise RES Law/Action Plan due to impact of new hydro producers on electricity end-users price to be done in coordination with market design as per Electricity Law, currently under revision: necessary expertise provided to enable final endorsement by Sept. 2014. Grounds are prepared for establishment of RES/EE Fund to secure sustainability of actions to transform SWH market. Tirana Municipality and a number of local governments are supported with tech assistance and demonstration projects to justify solar obligation's ordinances in new/under renovation public buildings. Monitoring system is installed in pilot projects, big SWH systems and families spread as per climatic zones.560 participants are trained with 210 during rep. period (72 females) focused on products quality, installation, monitoring and maintenance. Good coop. established with Tirana Polytechnic University to revise curricula of professional masters, encouraging diplomas, masters and PhD thesis on SWH systems, delivering post-uni trainings, recommending prof. software for systems design. Project SC of 12/06/2014 promised to solve co-financing of MEI on July 2014 under directives implemented by new Gov. Relations with MEI have improved, UNDP contribution is highly recognized/further support is asked under exit strategy to continue with EE/SWH in buildings. Updated report shows installed cumulative area 144565 m2, 22400 m2 installed area within reporting period, 167 m2 through pilot projects, reaching objective for annual sale of 20000 m2.

UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Highly Satisfactory

The project has been progressing in good pace towards achievement of the long term goal i.e. a sustainable market development of solar water heating in Albania. Through advocacy, capacity building and technical support the project managed to beat the annual objective of solar water heating cumulative installed area. The parliamentary elections of June 2013 and the subsequent re-structuring of Ministries and government institutions led to a major political and institutional change in the area of Energy and Environment. Through this project UNDP has been involved in important policy dialogues in the area of renewable energies (RES) with the new government and has been officially requested by the Ministry of Energy and Industry to provide support in the area focusing on secondary legislation of RES, establishment of a fund that would boost energy efficiency and RES interventions in the country, which can be an important contributor to economic growth and social development. The work of the project at municipal level from north to south of the country is considered as very important in introducing technical standards and increasing capacities in application of new technologies and is also an important element in the framework of a major reform supported by UNDP i.e. territorial and administrative reform. The reform aims at improvement of public service delivery at local level. Through this project UNDP has created synergies with other global initiatives such as Poverty and Environment Initiative as well as Regional project on Climate change –low emission development. The results of the project to date were also featured in the third volume of UNDP HQ, publication 'Empowering Lives, Building Resilience', constituting on sustainable energy success stories from UNDP's work, demonstrating the transformational change in the lives of people and societies. Link: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/EmpoweringLivesBuildingResilience.html

Project Implementing Partner	
GEF Operational Focal point	
Other Partners	
UNDP Technical Advisor	Satisfactory

The project received Satisfactory rating. It is on track to achieve its global development objective, i.e. to ensure transformation of market for solar water heating (SWH) systems in Albania. The target for SWH-covered area has been exceeded two-fold, i.e. by reaching 144,565 m2 against 75,000 m2 originally planned by the end of the project. Annual sales of SWH system have also reached the targeted level of 20,000 m2 already for a second year in a row. Good progress has been observed in all project components as follows.

Under Component 1 "Enabling institutional, legal and regulatory framework to promote a sustainable SWH market" the project has successfully facilitated the development and adoption of the Law on Renewable Energy, including specific chapter on SWH, which is an essential building block of enabling legal and regulatory framework for SWH market transformation. It is also supporting the new Government of Albania with development and enactment of secondary regulations to operationalize the law. The delay with adoption of by-laws is due to the change of the Government in the middle of the reporting period, which inevitably slowed-down the law-making process. However, despite the governmental changes, project team has established excellent cooperation with new Government and has full buy-in and support of its

key counterpart, the Ministry of Energy and Industry. As observed by RTA during project monitoring mission, the Ministry sees UNDP-GEF as its key partner and sources of support and expertise in promoting RE agenda in the country. It is also fully committed with implementation of all required aspects of SWH regulations and other policies to create conducive investment framework for renewable energy in Albania.

Under Component 2 “Enhanced awareness and capacity of the targeted end users regarding SWH systems” also a good and stable progress is being made as evidenced from a number of successful demonstration projects implemented in partnership with various stakeholders. It is worth noting innovative tools and approaches adopted by the project team to stimulate awareness of the customers, such as the Solar app for smart phones, which enable homeowners to assess parameters and benefits of SWH system.

With regard to Component 3 “Increased demand for SWH systems based on availability of attractive end user financing mechanisms and/or other delivery models”, the most important achievement is the decision of the Government to establish a dedicated RE/EE Fund as a financial mechanism to stimulate and promote investment in RE, including SWH. Project played instrumental role in facilitating this decision, including via networking with and provision of expertise on best practices on RE/EE Finance from other Western Balkan countries. However, it also became clear that the process of Fund set-up and operationalization requires much more efforts, time and resources, than originally thought. It also became apparent that a separate financial mechanism for SWH is not feasible and such mechanism should cover all RE/EE measures and activities. Hence, there is a risk, that financial mechanism might not be fully set-up and operational by the operational life-time of this project.

Finally, with respect to Component 4 “Enhanced capacity of the supply chain to offer good quality products and services”, while good progress is being made with promotion of European Certification scheme “Solar Keymark”, the targets regarding voluntary certification and client satisfaction are yet to be achieved. In the remaining time period, the project should pay particular attention to this component, as well as SWH market monitoring.

All in all, the project has a good potential to achieve its global development objective by the end of the project. In the remaining one year of its implementation a particular emphasis should be made on a)SMW market monitoring and b) monitoring and reporting the results of the project, including GHG emission reduction, volume of investment in SWH, and other key market parameters.

General Comments

Progress in Implementation	
Project Manager/Coordinator	Highly Satisfactory
The project effectively implemented as per the layout of the expected activities of the annual work plans: a full list of reports produced by the technical experts on time and in line with the respective ToRs. A series of consultations are organized in each and every area the project is working with: legal issues continued with the implementation of the Solar Chapter under the Law No. 138/2013 on Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and revision of the RES law and its Action Plan mainly due to the impact of new hydro producers on electricity end-users price, which ought to be done in coordination with the market design to be included in the Electricity Law, currently under revision; Legal assistance is given to Tirana Municipality and other local governments to come up with drafting and implementation of the standards related to renewable energy sources and energy efficiency in public buildings, including the solar thermal obligation in all new buildings and those going under major reconstruction (under the jurisdiction of municipalities). Good cooperation is established and maintained with Ministry of Social Welfare/State Social Service and Local Governments under which projects designs are prepared for the installation of SWH Systems in quite a number of public buildings in Tirana, Lezha, Shkodra, Berat, Elbasan, Gramsh, Saranda, Orikum, and Himara, while 18 public institutions have profited from the installation of SWH systems with monitoring equipment in the majority of them. Good trainings are delivered on the design, installation, monitoring and maintenance of SWH systems in cooperation with Tirana Polytechnic University, followed up by efforts for their further involvement with post university trainings and provision of professional software for the design of SWH systems. On the job trainings are delivered to local communities on the installation, monitoring and maintenance of SWH systems upon commissioning/hand over of pilot projects. Awareness on the technology of SWH is raised through a number of workshops with local communities, NGOs, private business and other interested participants upon cooperation with OSCE and Aarhus Centers of Vlora, Orikum, Himara and Saranda. The project is well represented in a series of activities related to Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. The project has been in close contact with UNDP CO in terms of activities and the budget delivery. The disbursement rate of the GEF and UNDP funding is at the level of 86.05% and 55.18% respectively by the end of June, 2014. The management arrangements seem appropriate and efficient. Again, the disbursement of the local contribution from the Ministry of Environment is done as planned upon last instalment transferred to the UNDP account, while the one from the Ministry of Energy and Industry has been at a low level (16.07% only): there very positive signals, this situation will completely change with the new Government as per the last SC meeting of 12th June, 2014.	
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Highly Satisfactory
Project Implementing Partner	
GEF Operational Focal point	
Other Partners	
UNDP Technical Adviser	Satisfactory
Project implementation progress is rated satisfactory. It is on track to complete its activities within the remaining one-year time-period. The cumulative delivery is at 89%. Excellent collaboration with and buy-in of the Ministry of Energy and Industry should be noted; this is also an indication that project has a good potential to sustain its results. There is still substantial amount of work with regard to establishment of RE/EE Fund and the project should develop a clear and realistic road-map and work plan for this deliverable specifically. Most important tasks in the last year of project implementation are to conduct terminal evaluation, design exit strategy and ensure that final lessons learnt report is prepared and communicated to all relevant stakeholders in Albania and globally.	

General Comments

H. Communications and Knowledge Management

The Story of This Project

As per the project design, there are five key indicators of the success at the end of the project timeframe:

- The target is 75,000 m2 of new installed SWH capacity reached by the end of project: At end of 2013, installation of nearly 79,000 m2 of new SWH capacity has been installed, which accounts for more than 100% of the expected final impact (direct post-project and indirect) within project timeframe; 18 public buildings have benefited from installed SWH systems; Other efforts during reporting period have been focused on supporting Ministry of Energy and Industry to progress with revision of RES Law/ Action Plan and endorse secondary legislation to implement the Solar Chapter; supporting Tirana Municipality to Monitoring, Verification and Enforcement of proposed Solar Thermal Obligation (STO) and On the job training for Maintenance of installed solar thermal systems;

- An annual sale of 20,000 m2 reached by the end of the project: the project already achieved this target at the end of 2011.

- The stated longer term goal of 520,000 m2 of installed capacity by 2020: if market trend continues in same way over upcoming years, the target will be easily reached.

- Adoption of a national system for adequate product standards, labeling and quality control schemes, to the possible extent, harmonized with international schemes: work in progress; secondary regulations still at draft form; domestic producers continued to perform pre-testing of their products by testing facility of the Harry Fultz Institute in Tirana; capacity building continued of engineers, instructors, interested students, installers and manufacturers on the solar collectors' testing centers and their operation; a temporary certification scheme for quality management designed and not yet endorsed; one domestic producer more close to product testing/certification by one Testing Institute outside Albania.

- Enhanced capacity of the supply chain to offer their products and services and verify customer satisfaction: more than 560 participants are trained over the last four years, with 210 only during the reporting period, out of which 72 female participants, focused on quality of products and their installations including monitoring and maintenance; Project provided TA to commercial energy end-users to improve installations of SWH systems upon previous inspection; A series of capacity building activities and awareness raising held on technology of SWH through rounds of training workshops with Tirana Polytechnic University, private universities, events with several municipalities/communes alongside the south coast of Albania; During the reported period different promotion materials such as leaflets, fast facts, posters, 2014 wall calendar are prepared and distributed: A short documentary film on the best experience of pilot solar thermal systems installed in public/private sectors is transmitted through the public television in Albania; Efforts have continued to find synergies with other donors contributing to the promotion of solar water heating in Albania; Project webpage (www.ccalb.org) and Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/undpccp.albania) updated on regularly bases. Regular articles written and published to several newspapers and magazines; besides web paged based, it is enabled the development of the applications for "Smart Phones" of the SWH Tool for Residential and Service sectors https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/solar-app/id792965104?ls=1&mt=8.

Adaptive Management this Reporting Period

Following the Mid-Term Evaluation recommendations, the Project has implemented a financial support delivery mechanism for pilot projects in public buildings, implying the Investment Cost-sharing Small Grants scheme to be supported by national co-financing to i) Provide the needed financing support for SWH systems to target government/public facilities; and (ii) Implement demo projects to boost the installation of SWH in the most hot water-intensive public/municipal facilities, among others: hospitals, kindergartens, cafeterias and laundries;

Project has entered into relations with the GEF Small Grants Programme to jointly financially support the implementation of pilot projects in several public buildings at local level;

In the frame of the technical assistance to be given to the Ministry of Energy and Industry to conceptualize the draft regulation related to the ''EE/RE Investment Fund'' required to advance the enforcement of the RE Regulation and boost investments in RE/EE, the Project profited from another initiative in the country to identify/develop a list of National Appropriate Mitigation Actions, to present/discuss in Tirana and in turn profit from a successful Study Tour of the Albanian decision-makers the case of Slovenian Eco-Fund, aiming at establishment of a unified Fund involving renewable energy,

energy efficiency and environmental friendly projects.
Lessons Learned
The entering into Memorandum of Understanding with public entities like the Tirana Municipality and Lezha Municipality, ensured cooperation not only with regards to the technical-legal assistance on local standards to involve solar obligations and capacity building of their staff in charge with policy making/projects design, but also ensured from the beginning the cost-sharing of selected pilot projects, qualified as direct impact of the Project in terms of the overall area installed and GHG emissions reduced. Enlarging the scope of the assistance in the area of energy efficiency measures in buildings with SWH systems one of them, made the Project more interesting in the eyes of the Project's local partners, while helps in the terms of exit strategy, to be prepared during the second part of 2014. Installing of/collecting data from relevant monitoring equipment together with SWH systems helped a lot in preparing strong justification background for the municipalities to further on consider the solar obligations for the public buildings under their jurisdiction.

General Comments

Not possible to upload anything!!!

I. Partnerships

Partners	Innovation and Work with Partners
Civil Society Organisations/NGOs	The Project has continued maintaining the good relations established with the associations of Tourism, Architects, Constructors, Banks, etc., by attracting their opinion on, inviting them in each and every event organized to promote Solar Water Heating in the country, and/or support every proposal by them with regards to further training, participation in others related events, etc. The relations with media have been also very good, having them correctly addressing Solar Water Heating events in the visual and written channels. More in particular, the Public TV channel (TVSH) produced and transmitted (10th of May, 2014) through a special dedicated emission a documentary with the Project's achievements/challenges/benefits of Solar Thermal Systems in Albania based on the interviews with the beneficiaries and the best implemented pilot projects. The Universities, as part of the academia have especially been so close to us with dedicated trainings and open sessions on solar energy like the ones organized with The Architecture Faculty of the Tirana Polytechnic University (22nd of April, 2014) and with the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the Tirana Polytechnic University (26th of May, 2014) with participation of respectively 71 architects and other students, and 80 energy engineers, students of Master of Science and the ones of the Energy Audit course by the University. The Project has also successfully promoted the SWH technology in the activities organized by NGOs like the Solar Week (23 – 24 October, 2013; Vlora Aarhus Center and Polis University activities on RES with focus on solar energy (27 May – 05 June, 2014), etc.
Indigenous Peoples	
Private Sector	The training of a considerable number (151) of architects, building engineers, other professionals in the building sector, hotel owners, SWH installers, etc. was conducted. Through the cooperation with ATA-Albanian Tourist Association, a call for expression of interest by the hotels on innovative solution of SWH was launched during fall, 2013, out of which 4 cases were

	selected: the Project will be assisting those with the feasibility studies and technical designs, on the understanding the participants will continue and procure themselves the designed SWH systems. Several meetings were held with a number of banks (Procredit, BKT, Societe General) having a special product on Energy Efficiency, including SWH systems, for which they apply a reduced interest rate to check their best experiences, challenges and also their possible participation in partnership with local authorities and inhabitants of existing buildings, interested to undertake energy efficiency measures and collective SWH systems. A special feasibility study is performed/presented and discussed by the Project in the frame of the Memorandum of Understanding with Tirana Municipality for an existing building selected randomly in Tirana, implying thermo insulation, double windows and SWH systems, which results are now with the Tirana Municipality, applying for funds to implement it after establishing the necessary partnerships. The increased rate of the annual sales of SWH systems (4,600 m2 in 2009 while 22,400 m2 in 2013) is a good indication for the consideration of SWH systems in new buildings and/or ones under renovation.
GEF Small Grants Programme	A good collaboration is established with GEF Small Grants Programme with regards to technical assistance/co-financing given to local municipalities to install SWH systems in their public buildings having a high demand for hot water, like kindergartens, dormitories and schools. In this frame, the feasibility studies and technical designs are prepared for the Dormitory of the High School and two Day-Care Centers in Elbasan, as well as for the Day-Care Centre and Kindergarten in Gramsh, after which, the GEF Small Grants Programme will take care for the procurement of the Elbasan objects, while the Project is opening the tender for the Gramsh objects, on the understanding that local municipalities will co-finance the installation of the SWH systems as per the technical projects. A joint awareness campaign on SWH systems is going to be organized on September, 2014, upon commissioning/handing over of the above mentioned pilot projects.
Other Partners	Besides the partnerships built with Tirana Municipality (which MoU got extended with 6 more months, till September, 2014) and Lezha Municipality, the Project is linked with five other municipalities to possibly have the same type of cooperation for technical assistance on solar obligation coupled with pilot projects/public buildings with SWH systems. There has been interest shown by Swedish SIDA to also start activities in line with the objectives of the Project (still to be decided). On the other hand, good cooperation has been established with OSCE presence in Albania and in this frame a round of promotion activities has been organized for the benefits of Renewable Energy and solar energy at community level during October – November, 2013. The cooperation with the Harry Fultz Institute in Tirana has continued with pre-testing of SWH systems of the Albanian producers by the Testing Centre placed by this Institute and also with the organization of different events/workshops for university students and professionals of the SWH supply chain. The Project was put into close cooperation with UNDP/UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative, under which a macroeconomic analysis on energy savings potential of Albanian households is going to be produced, having a lot of focus on solar energy use. On the other hand, a cooperation was established with a UNDP Regional Project on “Supporting RBEC transition to low emission development” under which cooperation, the costs were shared for the presentation in Tirana of the Slovenian Eco-Fund (February, 2014) and also the study tour in Slovenia of the Albanian decision makers (June, 2014) to profit from their positive experience and continue with the elaboration/establishment of the RES Fund in Albania as a manner to secure the sustainability of the measures taken in the course of the Project.

General Comments

J. Progress toward Gender Equality

Findings of gender/social needs assessment	
Changes in targeting women/girls	
Additional information on the project's work on gender equality	

General Comments

By targeting the social public institutions like kindergartens, medical clinics, elderly and orphans houses to co-finance the installations of solar thermal systems and demonstrate the benefits of this technology with energy savings and climate change mitigation, due to the fact that the majority of those public institutions' staff are women (both, management and common ones), a lot is done during the reporting period to increase their awareness and consider their particular needs and suggestions: women appeared very interested in and had clear voices in support to solar energy. Good examples continue to come from social institutions approached with their female directors who strongly impacted the decision making in favor of investments of SWH systems in their institutions. The Project has also come up with the feasibility study/technical projects and successful installation of SWH systems in the Multidisciplinary Center for Social Services in Tirana, addressing around 36 violated women/children for which there was a mutual interest even from the UN Gender Equality Program in Albania, with whom the costs for the pilot projects are shared. In terms of the participants in our related trainings, the female participants trained during the reporting period on the design, planning and monitoring of solar thermal systems (both professionals and students) was 72 out of 210.

K. Environmental \ Social Grievances

Related environmental or social issue	
Status	
Significance	
Detailed description	

L. Project Contacts and Links

Partner	Contact Name	Email Address
Project Coordinator / Manager	Mirela Kamberi	mirela.kamberi@undp.org
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Elvita Kabashi	elvita.kabashi@undp.org
Project Implementing Partner	Alfred Bundo	Alfred.Bundo@energjia.gov.al
GEF Operational Focal Point	Pellumb Abeshi	Pellumb.Abeshi@moe.gov.al
Other Partners		

UNDP Technical Adviser	Marina Olshanskaya	marina.olshanskaya@undp.org

Project website, etc.	IPHONE: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/solar-app/id792965104?ls=1&mt=8 Solar app on the App Store on iTunes Read reviews, get customer ratings, see screenshots, and learn more about Solar app on the App Store. Download Solar app and enjoy it on your iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. Read more... ANDROID: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=app.am.solar https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7cwCWR1uY2k&feature=youtu.be https://twitter.com/UNDPAlbania https://www.facebook.com/pages/UNDP-Albania/302120716513378 Webpage: www.ccalb.org SWH Tool: http://www.ccalb.org/solar_live/index.php Facebook: undpclimatechangeprogramme(AIM) https://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsAlbania http://www.fim.edu.al/informacione/!/57 http://fau.edu.al/ai1ec_event/new-refurbished-building-without-swh/?instance_id=73
Links to media coverage	@UNDPAlbania promotes the use of solar energy.You can watch a documentary here:bit.ly/1mXaigS http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/EmpoweringLivesBuildingResilience.html http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2013/12/11/new-solutions-to-energy-challenges-in-eastern-europe-and-central-asia-says-undp-report.html http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/EmpoweringLivesBuildingResilience.html and Administrator's speech at the launch: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/speeches/2013/12/11/helen-clark-speech-at-launch-of-empowering-lives-building-resilience-development-stories-from-europe-and-central-asia-on-sustainable-energy/ . http://europeandcis.undp.org/blog/2013/07/08/here-comes-the-sun-albania-passes-law-on-renewable-energy/ http://visual.ly/how-benefit-solar-energy#greenwednesday

M. Annex 1 - Ratings Definitions

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

Satisfactory (S): Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only few that are subject to remedial action.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action.

Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.

Unsatisfactory (U): Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

Satisfactory (S): Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits.

Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives.

Unsatisfactory (U): Project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.